

# Denmark

## I. The Democratic Danes and Their Homeland

By Shaw Desmond

Author of "The Soul of Denmark"

THE little kingdom of Denmark has obtained a significance throughout the world out of all proportion to its size, due, primarily, to the fact that it practically leads the world in agriculture, and that so many Danes in various countries have made their mark in science, art, and invention.

The country consists of the peninsula of Jutland, with its stretches of heather, sand, and scientifically worked soil; the big island of Zealand with its luscious pastures, and the little island of Fünen (Fyn) sandwiched in between them, while around its friendly coasts there is a sprinkling of idyllic little isles.

Although it has an intimate beauty that is all its own, there is no mountain in the country; scarcely a hill worthy of the name; not a single big river, and only a few streams. Of its population of some three and a quarter millions, 600,000 have come together in Copenhagen, the capital, which lies on the east of Zealand, facing Malmö, in Sweden, across the blue waters of the Oresund or Sound.

Since the Great War, North Slesvig, that Sønder Jylland, or South Jutland, beloved of every Dane, has once more been taken out

of the grip of the big neighbour on the south.

The Dane, like the Irishman and the Jew, is to be found everywhere, and can be recognized by three unmistakable characteristics. He is, except the Irishman, the most fluent talker in Europe, though, unlike him, he is Europe's worst orator; his naturalness and good-nature are almost without a parallel; and, lastly, he has a laughing scepticism, especially if he be a Copenhagener, which is quite his own. He

laughs at everything, including himself. The Jutlander, however, who is "the Highlander of Denmark," though a genial open-handed soul, takes himself very seriously.

Intellectually occupying a high place among Europeans, the Dane has a curious lack of imagination, being strangely uncomprehending outside the realm of the five senses. As one writer has expressed it, he is not "four-dimensional." On the other hand, his powers of critical analysis are exceptional, as those who have lived some years in the country, and, having learnt the language, have lectured to Danish audiences in both



ARGUS-EYED SENTINEL OF DENMARK

Busby, rifle, sword, all are complete and the military bearing of this young guard is such as to warrant ill for the disturbers of his

Sovereign's peace

Photo. E. M. Newman



DURING THE BUSY HOURS IN A WELL-KNOWN STREET OF COPENHAGEN  
Copenhagen, the capital of Denmark, is a large and handsome city on the island of Zealand, and receives its Danish name of Kjöbenhavn or Merchant's Haven from the numerous merchants who, on account of its favourable situation, made of it an important resort. This photograph of the Vesterbrogade exemplifies the enormous cycle traffic continuously to be seen on the wide and well-kept streets of this capital town

*Photo, Thv. Larsen*

Danish and English, have discovered, no man being quicker than the Dane to discover any false quantity or insincerity in man or method.

Physically, the Dane is a round-headed, powerfully built man of middle height, often carrying so much flesh as to leave no suggestion whatever of his Viking forbears, who, in the dead centuries, descended upon the coasts of Britain, where they first harried, and then married. He is a tremendous trencherman, Denmark having the best, the cleanest, and most carefully supervised food in Europe, and he eats anything from four to six meals in the twenty-four hours, beginning with rolls and coffee. Upon his table one often finds four or five kinds of bread, with the Danish national dish—smørrebrød ("smeared bread"), made of bread-

and-butter with various delicacies, fish, flesh, and fowl, laid upon it.

The partner of his joys—for, since he takes life easily, his sorrows are few—is distinguished, when a girl, by great beauty of complexion and strength, rather than fineness of limb. She, like her husband, is, on the whole, fair, although nowhere is there to be met greater variety of human type than in little Denmark, as the Danes affectionately call their land. In half an hour's walk, one will see Danes of all shades of complexion, with hair from jet black to the lightest flaxen, while the variety of feature is so noticeable that there can scarcely be said to be a Danish type.

With the Dane, as the Arab, hospitality is almost a religion, only that the Dane, as a whole, is not religious. His

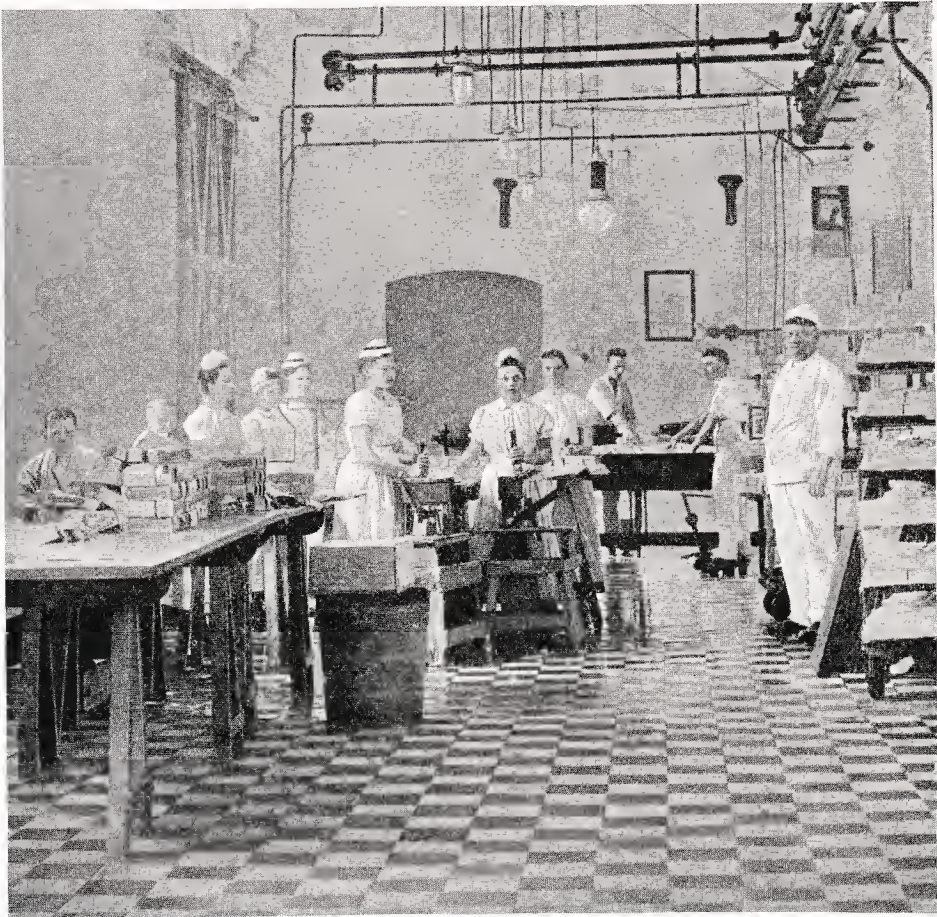


## DENMARK & THE DANES

own word for it is *gaestfri* (guest-free), and the stranger is invariably welcomed with open arms. If an Englishman's house is his castle, the house of the Dane is a home for all the world, where the stranger within the gate seems always to be expected, and where he always finds himself surrounded by that extraordinary natural atmosphere or *stemning* (that expressive word for which the English "atmosphere" is no equivalent), which makes him instantly at home.

One of the first things to strike the stranger in the conversation of a Danish

household, almost of any class, is its curious quality of intellect, its humour, and the exceptional knowledge of other countries and languages shown by these highly educated people, of whom a good proportion speak and read English and German fluently, with also intimate knowledge of the literature of these countries; these languages being taught in the Board Schools or *Kommuneskoler* ("common schools"). Many Danes have also a close acquaintance with the French language and with French literature. Nor is it uncommon to meet Danes who know far more about the



### PACKING THE MOST NOTED EXPORT OF DENMARK

The dairymen of Denmark have a world-wide reputation, and Danish butter, known to be exceptionally good, is as largely welcomed in England as it is in America. In this fine creamery, near Copenhagen, white-robed workers are busily engaged in cutting the butter into cakes and in packing it for exportation. The value of the butter for export amounts to nearly 40 per cent. of the total value of Danish exports.

*Photo, Ewing Galloway*





**GREAT PUBLIC MARKET OF COPENHAGEN WHERE FARMERS CAN SELL THEIR PRODUCTS DIRECT**  
A good example of what can be done with a public market is the great vegetable mart at Copenhagen. This city provides an open-air market-place of considerable dimensions, to which a large number of farmers from the surrounding country districts bring their home-grown produce. The fees charged to farmers are low, resulting in lower rates to the consumer, for this encouragement to the producer inevitably tends to keep down prices

*Photo, Ewing Galloway*





# IN KONGENS NYTORV, THE OLD CENTRE OF THE CITY OF COPENHAGEN

This large open space is known as Kongens Nytorv, or the King's New Market. On the extreme right is the Hôtel d'Angleterre, the neat, white tables of its open-air café monopolising in characteristic European fashion most of the pavement. The Royal Theatre is to the left, the scene of the triumphs of the several famous Danish dramatists, and as the tickets may be bought at very moderate figures, the pleasure-loving Dane is never at a loss for entertainment

*Photo, Ewing Galloway*



Irish question than most Englishmen, and to have such Dickensian characters as Barkis in "David Copperfield," quoted freely by all sorts and conditions. In addition, one may say that the Dane is the only European, outside Norway, who can pronounce English like an Englishman, English visitors at times finding it difficult to believe that individuals with whom they have entered into conversation are not native-born English.

#### Working Class that Never Knows Hunger

The Danish language itself, highly developed though it be and with a big vocabulary, is an impossible language for the foreigner, who, with few exceptions, has never been able to twist his tongue and larynx around the guttural r's, the piercing y's, and to acquire that indescribable check or stød tone almost peculiar to this language. Like English, to which, as to German, it is closely related, it has hardly any grammar, but an exceptional literature.

Perhaps the most outstanding thing in this little land is its democracy. With its reputed tiny minority of some eight hundred aristocrats, its backbone of peasants, a middle class who seldom use the word itself, and an educated working-class which, literally, never knows hunger, there is to all intents and purposes no such thing in Denmark as class. You lift your hat to every man, workman or aristocrat. You lift your hat to your washerwoman or your chambermaid, whom you address as Frøken or Miss. King Christian himself, the most popular six and a half feet of royal humanity in Europe, may be met any day taking a stroll down Bredgade, the Regent Street of the capital, lifting his hat to all and sundry.

#### Dirty Linen Washed in Private

There are no servants in the English, French, or German sense of the word. A writer who visited the country expressed his astonishment that at the table of the astronomer-royal he sat down with the aforesaid astronomer's nurse, and at the house of an insurance magnate with both his maids, to whom

he was introduced before they ate. Nor does such an occasional breaking down of barriers in Denmark lead to the familiarity that breeds contempt. To the Dane, who is in so many respects a strong conservative, the distinctions of the outside world are both artificial and incomprehensible.

There is no surer index to a country than an examination of its lovemaking and its morals. Denmark has a certain uniqueness of outlook upon these vital matters. It has, outside Nevada, perhaps the easiest divorce law in the world, the Dane, rightly or wrongly, believing that the forcible holding together of incompatible temperaments is more immoral than immorality itself. Danish divorce is distinguished by the fact that it is secret, there being no washing of dirty linen in public, and nobody knows who has divorced whom. A simple application to the authorities by either of the parties, almost always made with the consent of the other party, the lapse of a suitable interval, and the matter is accomplished, the divorce columns of British and American newspapers being regarded, frankly, by the Danes as bad taste or worse.

#### Marriage Not a Profession

This ease of divorce in certain more or less limited circles, where divorce is common, occasionally leads to a certain confusion, especially where a man has divorced or been divorced three or four times, but, on the whole, the Danish marriage is one of the happiest on earth, the Dane usually making a tender, thoughtful husband and his wife being not only a loving, but an intelligent wife, whom he usually consults in all his undertakings. Danish women are specially well equipped to act as helpmates to their men-folk, as nearly every girl in Denmark, irrespective of class or wealth, works at some definite calling, and very often continues to do so even after she is married. Marriage in Denmark is not a profession.

Despite the fact that there is a high illegitimate birth-rate in Denmark, one would scarcely be justified in calling Denmark immoral, although the Great



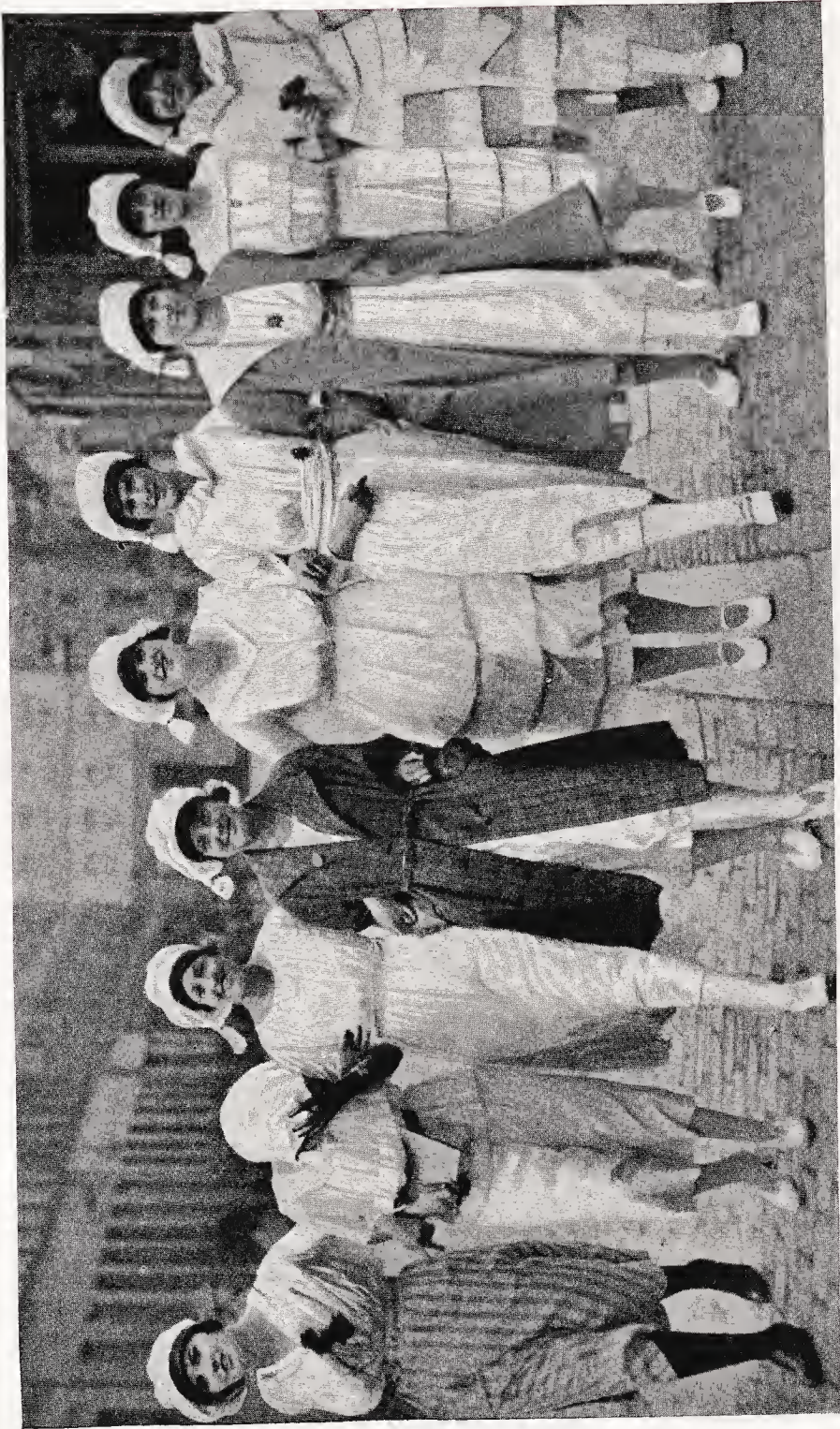


#### POPULAR FISH MARKET AND ITS THRONGS OF BUYERS

In the fish market and in the fish shops of Copenhagen live fish are usually kept swimming in huge tanks of water, for the Dane prefers to buy his fish fresh. Fish is a favourite food of the Danes, and figures conspicuously in the national dish "smørrebrød," literally "smeared bread," which consists of thin bread-and-butter, with various delicacies, slices of fish, flesh, or fowl, laid upon it

*Photo, Underwood Press Service*



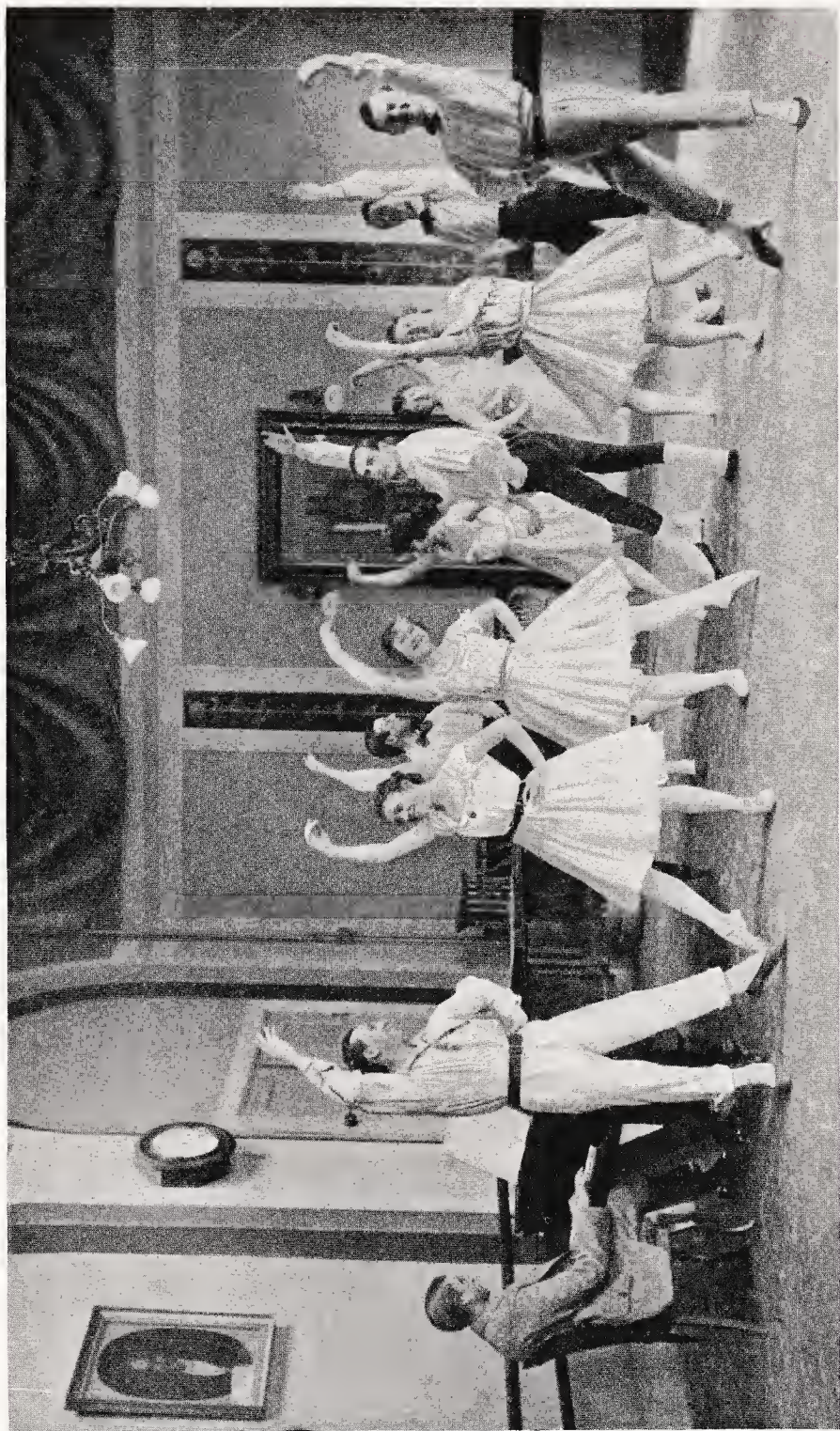


MERRY ROW OF "SWEET GIRL GRADUATES" IN A STREET OF COPENHAGEN

Denmark maintains a high standard of education. In the primary schools pupils receive gratuitous instruction, and in the secondary public schools moderate fees are paid. There are several public grammar schools, and even private schools are to a certain extent under public control. Copenhagen possesses a fine university, to which women have had access for nearly fifty years, on similar terms with men, to the various branches of the curriculum, with the exception of theology

*Photo, Theo. Larsen*





MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL BALLET OF COPENHAGEN PRACTISING THE MEASURED STEPS OF THEIR DANCE DRILL "Art for Art's sake" is a maxim keenly observed in theory and practice by the Dane, and the number of famous men, including writers, poets, artists, and musicians produced by this little nation is astonishing. At the Theatre Royal, comedy, drama, and opera have alternate sway, and the ballet, first presented some fifty years ago, still retains its ancient power and holds large numbers of spectators spellbound for hours at a time without a single word being spoken

*Photo, Thw. Larsen*





# HOMELY STYLES OF NATIONAL DRESS IN VOGUE AMONG THE WOMENFOLK OF DEMOCRATIC DENMARK

They are characteristic figures of the humbler class of Danish women, their varied headgear being not the least important feature of the simple national costume. Extremely hospitable, the stranger is ever very willingly admitted to their home-circle, where more than a liberal share of kindness is meted out to him. These women, patient, unambitious souls, are notable housewives, and remarkably clever with the needle

*Photo, Thu. Larsen*





# COLOURED POSY OF HUMAN FLOWERS GROWN ON DANISH SOIL

Rosy cheeks and golden hair are the prerogatives of Danish maidenhood, and these tiny girls are no exceptions to the rule. Their festive national dress is simplicity itself, and in little corsages and clean pinafores, their flaxen locks peeping out from under their bright bonnets, these pretty laughing children, the very personification of spring, are as fresh and as dainty as the scented posies which they have picked during their romps in the meadows

*Photo, Th. Larsen*



War, with the unexpected prosperity which it brought to the country, has, as in so many of the neutral countries, caused a notable decline in public morals. It would perhaps be more accurate to say that in the little country across the North Sea, there is less hypocrisy about these things than in Anglo-Saxon countries, and that the Dane views with a somewhat lenient eye what would be regarded in America or England as grave

Denmark has given much more than its quota of scientists to the world, including Tycho Brahe, pioneer of modern astronomy; Ørsted, the inventor of the electric telegraph; Niels Finsen, discoverer of the Finsen-rays, which have stemmed the ravages of the dreaded disease of lupus; and Poulsen, one of the most distinguished pioneers in wireless telegraphy. The country has also given some most distinguished scientific



ENTHUSIASTIC MEMBERS OF A ROWING CLUB

Well-trained, skilful, and energetic, these able-bodied young Danish women are adepts in the art of rowing. In their trim sailor costumes, complete with the tightly-fitting practical cap, they present a pleasing picture seated in the light boats which, impelled by the rhythmic movement of the oars, glide rapidly and easily over the water's surface

*Photo, Thv. Larsen*

infractions of the moral code. As a Dane would put it: "We are more natural about these things." One result of this is that in Denmark there are no tragedies of ruined girls, the State, in one of the few countries that has solved the poverty problem, making generous provision for the illegitimate child and its mother. It may, however, be said that the parties to such irregular unions frequently have them legalised.

men in other branches of knowledge, including Vilhelm Thomsen, one of the world's most eminent philologists, and his colleague Jespersen, inventor of the phonetic system of teaching English which has made him famous.

Apart from the great names of the past, like Søren Kirkegaard the philosopher, and Hans Christian Andersen, whose fairy tales have gladdened the lives of millions, there are Georg



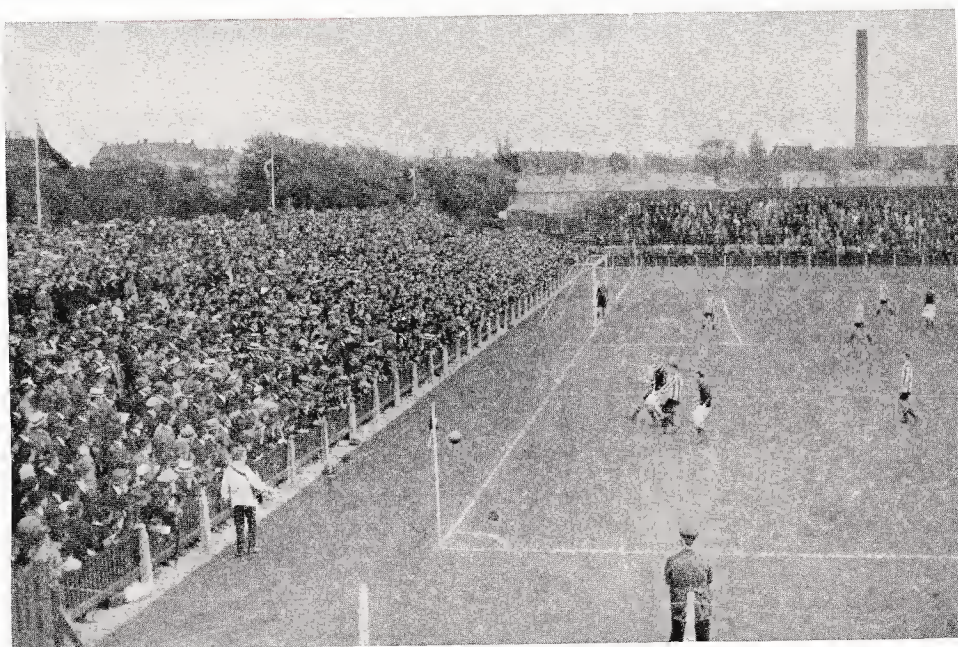


#### SWALLOW DIVE DURING A DANISH SWIMMING CONTEST

The girls of Denmark are fond of outdoor exercise and excel in most sports—tennis, bicycling, riding, and swimming being perhaps the favourites. Water holds no fear for them; they make of it a mere playground, and on sea-festival days when the competitors' skill is taxed to the utmost, the Danish girls are ever in the foremost rank with their agile, graceful, and masterly display of diving and swimming

*Photo, Thv. Larsen*





#### FOOTBALL MATCH BETWEEN ENGLISH AND DANISH TEAMS

Sport has not long made its appearance in Denmark, but it has undoubtedly come to stay. This immense crowd is symbolical of the growing interest of the nation in what they still term relaxation, for sport to them constitutes more of an amusement than a development of the physical and mental powers—a "bracing up" which has such wonderful effects on the psychology of a nation



#### THE STARTING POINT ON THE COURSE AT ORDRUP

The Dane has not the dare-all spirit of the Englishman where sport is concerned, and to a great extent lacks the "keenness" of the more temperamental Anglo-Saxon. But sport is something new to the Dane, and its appeal to the national fancy has but recently met with a response. This cycle race, however, has no lack of eager competitors nor yet of enthusiastic spectators

*Photos, Thv. Larsen.*





#### VALIANT SONS OF THE VIKINGS ON THE MARCH

General Baden-Powell, the originator and leader of this great world movement, has made several visits to the Danish camps, and has been much impressed by the keen enthusiasm and fine physical prowess of the young Scouts. Prince Canute, the second son of the King, and a whole-hearted supporter of the organization, is seen in dark uniform to the right of the photograph



#### DANISH GIRL SCOUTS AWHEEL ON THE HIGH ROAD

Like the Boy Scouts, a strong and growing movement in Denmark, the Girl Scouts are splendidly organized and trained. A company of Danish Girl Scouts awheel is no unusual sight, for bicycling is one of the most popular sports in Denmark, nearly every person possesses a machine, and, owing to the scanty fall of snow in winter bicycles may be used the whole year round

*Photos, Thv. Larsen*



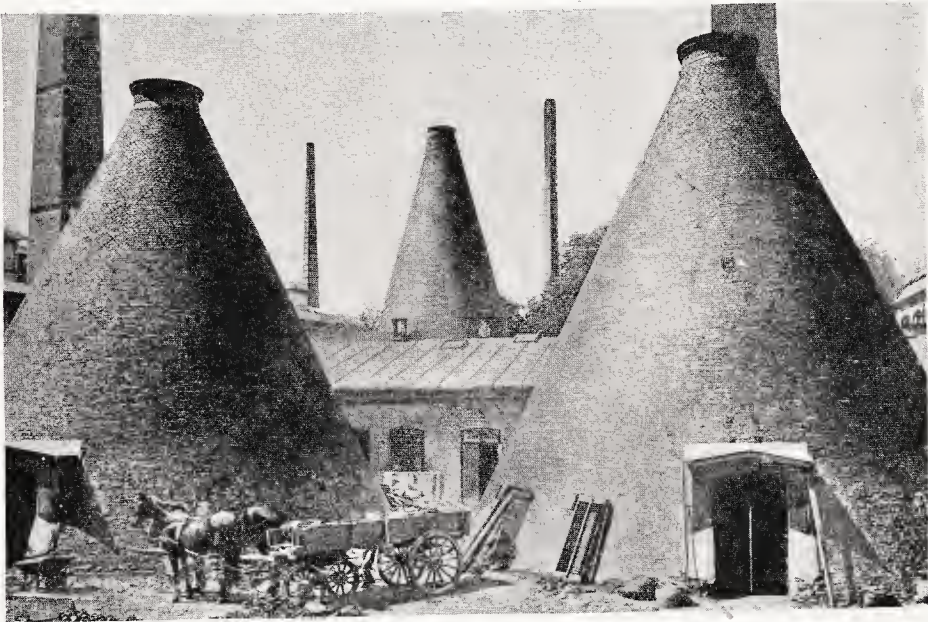
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Brandes, the greatest Shakesperean critic of the twentieth century. Johannes V. Jensen, the novelist, and one of the giants of modern literature, is a Dane, while the number of writers and poets of high class that Denmark has turned out within the last hundred years or so, from the hymn-writer and educationalist, Grundtvig, downwards, is amazing.

Especially striking is the number of gifted painters produced in a land where

horizon for the artist, whether writer, painter, or musician, although Denmark has given some fine musicians to the world, both composers and interpreters. That is why one so rarely meets with the symbolical or, in the larger sense, the imaginative, in Danish art.

So far as politics and patriotism are concerned, Denmark presents a series of amazing contradictions. The Dane, especially the Jutlander, is conservative



KILNS OF THE ROYAL PORCELAIN WORKS, COPENHAGEN

Denmark's most far-famed manufacture is that of porcelain. The industry was first introduced into the country in 1772, when a small factory was started for the making of china from Bornholm clay. Seven years later the industry passed into the hands of the State, and has remained under its management ever since, although at the present day several private concerns have been opened

*Photo, Ewing Galloway*

sometimes almost every tenth man or woman one meets seems to have been born with a palette in their hands, from men of international reputation, like Skovgaard, to others whose fame has not spread outside Northern Europe. What the Danish artist, as a whole and with few exceptions, lacks, is breadth and vision. People who live in the greater countries and who, willingly or unwillingly, are brought into contact with world events, scarcely realize how much the little country narrows the

and individualist by nature; yet, in no country in the world is social democracy stronger, the party now polling some 400,000 votes out of only 3,000,000 inhabitants. State action in this country of individualists has now reached such a point that it has become benevolent bureaucracy, possibly due, in face of the individualist majority, to the intensive organization of the Socialist vote, the political system, like the agricultural system throughout the country, being honeycombed with





#### DANISH POTTER AT THE POTTER'S WHEEL

The potter's wheel, a small horizontal revolving table, has scarcely altered during 4,000 years, only the method of supplying power has undergone modifications. This potter is making kitchen utensils of fine clay. After the vessel is shaped and fired it is dipped in what is technically known as slip, a liquid made of powdered felspar, flint, white clay, and other substances mixed with water

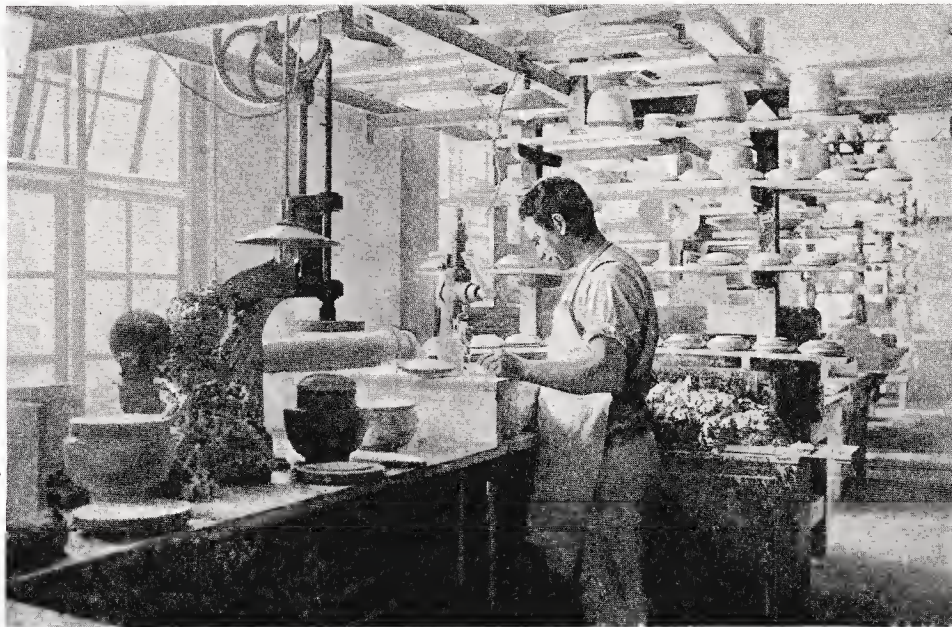
*Photo, Ewing Galloway*





#### CASTING A LARGE VASE IN THE MOULDING-ROOM

Casting is done by pouring liquid clay into a mould, and when sufficient of the moisture has been retained by the porous mould, the remainder of the liquid is poured out, leaving a coating of clay of the required thickness inside. When partially dry this shrinks away from the mould, allowing its removal; it can then be treated and finished. Handles and feet are applied in the clay state



#### POTTER MAKING PLATES IN THE ROYAL MANUFACTORY

Porcelain is distinguished from earthenware by being a vitreous translucent substance coated with a hard, transparent glaze. The soft kaolin clay, a hydrated aluminium silicate, is formed by the weathering of granite and other rocks; in its crude state it is freed from quartz and other impurities by washing, when it appears in a white powder form and is mixed with felspar, flint, etc., for porcelain manufacture

*Photos, Ewing Galloway*





#### WOMEN ARTISTS DECORATING THE FAMOUS DANISH PORCELAIN

The employees of the Royal Porcelain Works are mostly artists, and many a woman of good social standing has taken up this interesting branch of artistic work. Formerly the Copenhagen potters executed much work in imitation of the Dresden china made at Meissen, but now the designs are chiefly original and hand-drawn or painted. When finished the design is signed and registered



#### ADDING THE DECORATIVE TOUCH TO THE CERAMIC ART

In this cool delightful studio flowers, plants, butterflies, and even small animals are among the multi-form objects used as models by the designing artists, and many of Thorvaldsen's beautiful creations have been repeated in this ware. Copenhagen porcelain is generally of a simple form, and the colours are extremely delicate. The beautifully shaped vases are subjected to intense heat before decoration

*Photos, Ewing Galloway*





#### PORCELAIN PAINTER AT WORK IN HIS STUDIO

With dexterous hand he guides his brush over the smooth surface of the vase, beautiful designs springing up at his touch. The ceramic decorator applies the colours with great care, knowing that the purity of tone, and sometimes even the colour, does not appear until after firing; and some colours will not mix with others, but will in the fire react to their mutual destruction

*Photo, Ewing Galloway*

State interference, the misuse of the national unemployment grants leading to what can only be termed "organized malingering." For although in the realm of the agricultural, where the combination of individualist and State action has had such splendid results, the coming in of the State seems to have been fully justified, in the social realm, where individualism seems steadily to be discounted, the widespread State subsidising has had the most unfortunate results for the Danish working-class.

Another strange contradiction is to be found in the fact that in this country of an intense patriotism in circles like that of the High School, a country which put up one of the most gallant fights in history of a weak country against a strong—that against the German States in 1864, there is to-day an indifference to nationality and patriotism unparalleled in any Continental country. And this, again, in spite of the fact that no other country displays its national flag so much upon

every occasion as Denmark—that beautiful flag which the Danes call the Dannebrog, with its white cross upon a red ground.

The visitor is also presented with the baffling fact that almost all Danish politics concern themselves with economic rather than ethical or strictly national issues, and that the modern Dane has a tendency to be not only indifferent to, but to show a distrust of politics and politicians in any form, a Danish political meeting being marked by a notable absence of enthusiasm. An exception to this indifference must be made in the case of the Social Democrats who, however, are, in some views, governed by stomachic rather than ethical considerations.

The four principal political parties in the country, which has both a Folketing, or House of Commons, and a Landsting, or Upper House, are called the Højre (Right) or Conservative Party, now steadily declining in influence; the Venstre (Left) Party, corresponding somewhat to the Liberals in Britain;



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the Social Democratic Party and the Radical Party, sometimes forming a block with the Socialists.

Almost all the workmen, though comparatively few peasants, are to-day Social Democrats, and it is not impossible that Denmark, with its ever increasing trend towards the Left, will be the first country in Europe to have a more or less permanent Socialist government, as also, with its detestation of bloodshed and scarcely veiled good-natured contempt for the profession of arms, it is more than likely it will be the first European country to disarm. For the Dane is a steady and convinced pacifist, and in this respect may be called the Chinaman of Europe.

And finally, we are faced with the contradiction that it was this country, with its indifference to politics, which was one of the first to give the vote to women and to make them eligible to sit in parliament, and there exists, also, no parallel to the way in which, within a

handspan of years, it has raised its peasantry from a feudal condition to that of one of the most educated and independent peasantries in the world.

Religiously, Denmark possesses a small minority of intensely religious people, chiefly segregated within the ranks of the Indre Mission, or Inner Mission, a sect corresponding to the old-fashioned blood-and-fire Methodism in England, and within those of the Roman Catholic Church, which in this Protestant country is making great strides. There is a Danish State Church, showing what is probably a steady decline in membership, but the Dane in the mass, and especially in the towns, shows himself indifferent to religion in any form.

The young Dane is an excellent sportsman, taking England as his model, the national game being Association football, played winter and summer, at which he is, outside England, probably the finest player in Europe, sometimes



IN THE DIPPING HOUSE OF THE PORCELAIN POTTERY

The vases already decorated are collected together prior to the glazing process. Each piece of ware is plunged into the solution which adheres in an even coating to the surface, imparting a fine transparent glaze. After glazing, the ware is again baked in an oven, but this time at a much fiercer heat which not infrequently cracks the beautiful ornament

*Photo, Ewing Galloway*



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even defeating English Cup finalists. Cricket at one time looked like capturing the imagination of young Denmark, but for some years has been steadily losing ground before the all-conquering Soccer, although it is still played here and there.

Boxing, during the last decade, has made great strides, the Dane showing exceptional endurance and strength, and possessing a skill above the average, but the Danish nature, lacking as it is in pugnacity, has hitherto prevented these

little band of enthusiasts, known as Vikings, who bathe in Denmark's icy seas right through the winter.

The finest thing on the sporting side of Denmark is its gymnastic system. Almost every young Dane, boy or girl, goes through a systematic course from an early age, the system being based on the Swedish, most of the exercises being without apparatus, the dumb-bell being rigidly excluded and attention given to development of liness and

agility rather than to sheer muscle. As among the old Greeks, gymnastics are taught as the only proper preparation for all games, and thousands of Danes of either sex, from youth to middle and even old age, may be found in the gymnasiums of the country as early as seven o'clock in the morning, going through a strenuous preparation to fit them for the work of the everyday world. The Danish physique, however, with its fine blood and bone, is due even more to the excellence of the Danish food, and to a healthy climate, which is a little colder and drier than that of England, than to sports and gymnastics. Two things have specially marked Denmark out for distinction. First, the giving to the world of the famous Danish High School system; and secondly and chiefly, a finely organized and



CHEERY COUPLE IN FAROESE COSTUME

The inhabitants of the Faroe or Sheep Islands, belonging to Denmark, are well represented by this smiling pair, who, like their fellow-islanders, can always see the silver lining of every cloud

*Photo, Danish Legation*

children of the Vikings, who were once Europe's champion heavyweights, from reaching the position in the world of the eight-ounce glove to which their other qualities entitle them.

The Danes are not only fine seamen, but they are among the best swimmers in the world, for Denmark, with the sea lying at its doors, has splendidly equipped baths, salt and fresh, while there is a

ubiquitous cooperative movement, which has combined with what is probably the most scientific agriculture in existence.

Taking it as a whole, the soil of the five millions of acres, reckoned in hectares (one hectare equals nearly two and a half acres), which constitute Denmark, is rather poor than otherwise, yet by assiduous toil and science





### DENMARK: GIRLS OF STRÖMÖ, ISLAND

This is the memorial stone of Niels Finsen, the Danish physician and originator of the light ray treatment of diseases, who was born in Thorshavn on Strömö Island, the largest of the Faroe Group

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*Photo, Danish Legation*







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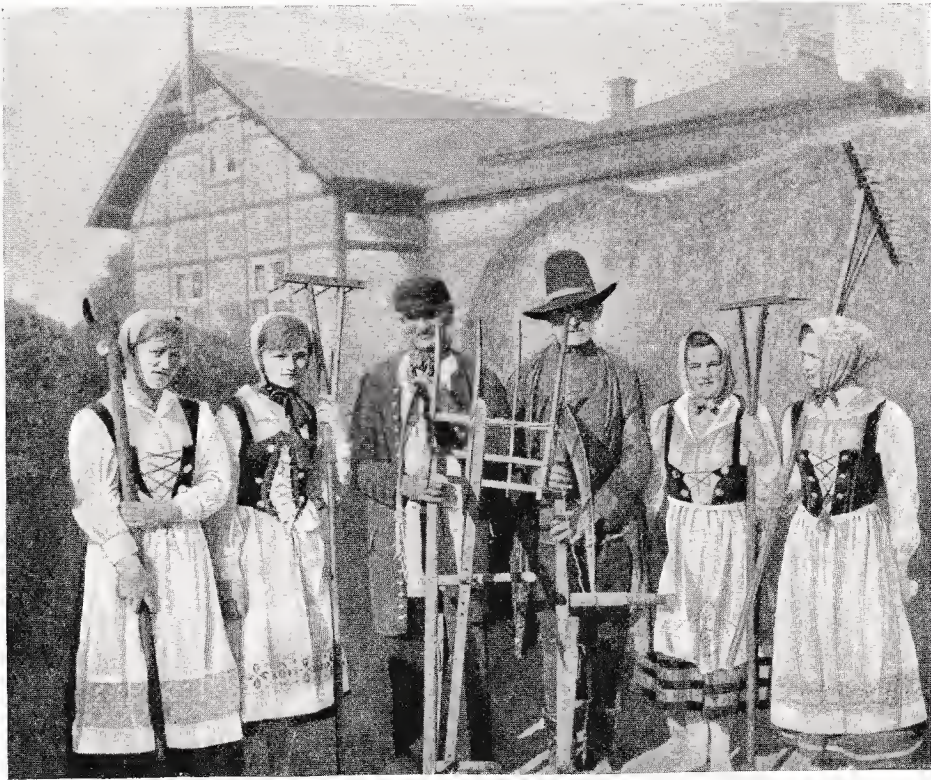
Denmark has been transformed into the dairy of Europe, sending her butter, eggs, and bacon, the last of which she rarely eats herself, throughout the world, and being visited by the agriculturists of all countries to learn the oldest of all secrets—the best and easiest way to wring a livelihood from Mother Earth.

Four-fifths of the exports of Denmark are agricultural, small-holding everywhere obtaining. It is claimed that this system has given Denmark's peasantry a unique freedom from the extremes of poverty, and with the Danish peasant it has become an article of faith, which one would no more dream of discussing with him than the negro question with a citizen of the Southern States of America.

However this may be, the secret of Denmark's agricultural success is

standardisation. At one time, each little farm produced its own butter and eggs without thought for the others, but then the shrewd peasants put their heads together, began to build communal creameries, and standardised their butter so that at the beginning of the twentieth century about 83 per cent. of the farms, with their livestock, were affiliated to the Cooperative Creameries, and about 81 per cent. of the cattle were registered in the cooperative movement. Each creamery is controlled entirely by cooperators who, each with one vote, elect their own boards, the profits being divided pro rata according to the delivery of the individual.

Denmark has over one million milch cows, of which about half are black and white, and the other half red, these favoured animals being regarded more as

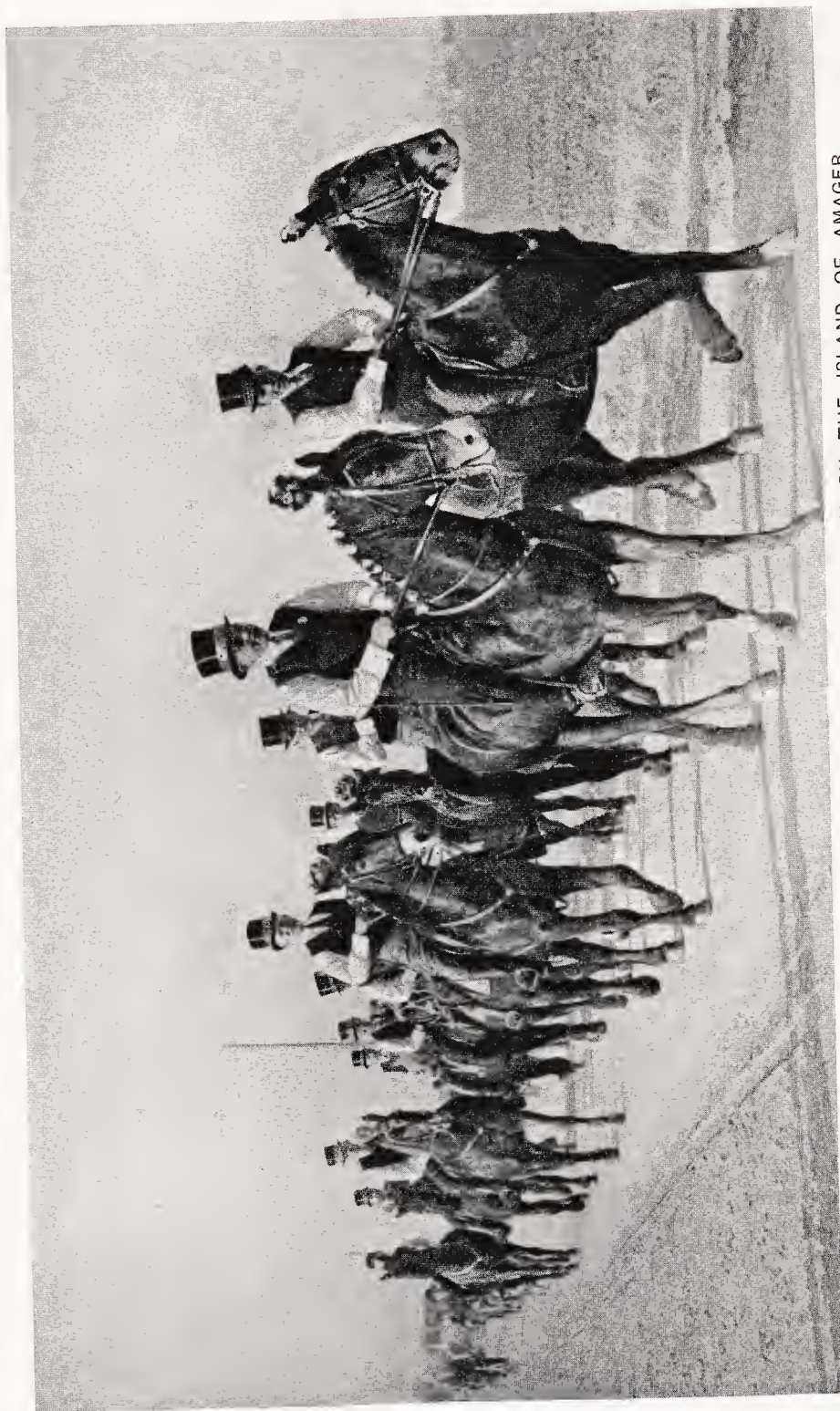


DANISH YEOMEN AND FARM GIRLS IN OLD NATIONAL COSTUME

They still employ many old-fashioned farm implements, but the staunch cooperation of these farmers and their scientific methods of cultivating the soil have brought them much fame and enabled them to supply many a foreign table with food. Their wives and daughters may receive a practical training in a special "folk-school," where every detail of domestic management is taught

*Photo, Tho. Larsen*





CAVALCADE OF YOUTHFUL EQUESTRIANS CELEBRATING MAY-DAY ON THE ISLAND OF AMAGER

The first of May is welcomed in most European countries with many quaint ceremonies. On the island of Amager, which protects the entrance to the splendid harbour of Copenhagen and is joined by bridges to that city, these enthusiastic young countrymen have organized a procession on horseback, and now in the regulation "get-up," with nosegays of flowers decorating the manes of their horses, they are off in the early morning to celebrate with song and mirth the coming of May-day

*Photo, The. Larsen*





#### GIRL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATIVES OF A DANISH ISLAND

This is the usual sunny type of the maiden born and bred in the Faroe Islands which lie between Iceland and the Shetlands. The twenty-one islands composing the group are the only existing remains of a large island; seventeen of this number are inhabited, and these bright girls, whose language is a dialect of the Norse, are inhabitants of the capital, Thorshavn, on Strömö Island

*Photo, Danish Legation*

friends of the family than as cows. Their value is determined only by one thing—fatty contents. The payment for milk is decided by its fatty percentage of cream.

Throughout the country, the average milk yield of the farms is about 2,700 kilogrammes (a kilogramme=2·2 lb.), the fatty percentage for the entire country averaging 3·5. These things are worked out to places of decimals; on some farms a sort of thermometric chart being hung over each cow, with the name of the animal above, indicating whether the percentage of fatty contents is being kept up, and the effects of the different foods employed.

There is now a well-organized system of cooperative slaughter houses, the first being built in 1887, five years after

the first cooperative creamery was installed, and these slaughter houses, like the creameries, are so scrupulously clean that they would compare favourably with the inside of most English dairies. They are rigidly controlled by the State, which also keeps as guides for the boards and managers of the cooperative creameries, consultants, who give advice as to machinery, etc. Nothing is left to chance. The country is divided into egg-collecting areas; each cooperator has his own number, the date the egg is laid is stamped on each egg-shell; the eggs are sorted by weight, and they are gathered by a man who goes from place to place, forwarding them by rail to the head depot, or clearing house. There are also seven exporting Butter Unions.



## DENMARK & THE DANES

Not only does Denmark apply the cooperative principle to pork and beef, cocks and hens, but it has its own Cooperative Insurance Companies, which, in some instances, regulate the premium paid by the member by the number of pounds (not pints) of milk he delivers to his creamery. One of these companies alone has a federation of about 1,300 creameries.

There is also a great Cooperative Bank, a Cooperative Sanatorium Union, which has over one thousand cooperative

societies for manure, fodder, corn and seed, machinery, cement, and coal.

The vast and involved machinery of all this cooperation is gathered into the hands of a single Cooperative Executive—the Central Cooperative Committee of Denmark, and it is this Committee which has begun a duel to the death with the Trusts in that country.

The Danish business man has won for himself an enviable place in European commerce, not only by his enterprise, but by his probity. But the Great War has had far-reaching effects, at one and the same time launching little Denmark into the maelstrom of big business, broadening her business ideas, but also, unfortunately, breeding a new type of business man known as the goulash or "get-rich-quick" type, a type which has damaged the Danish reputation. This was brought about by the fact that when at the outset of the Great War the communications between the warring countries broke down, Copenhagen was used as a sort of International Clearing House by the combatants.

Denmark has one or two big undertakings, like the well-known East Asiatic Company, but in normal times its business activities are upon a small scale, perhaps upon the smallest scale on the Continent, "business" here being used in



FLOWER-SELLER OF COPENHAGEN

Above the heaped blossoms in the flower market of Copenhagen this friendly old face with its genial smile meets your eyes, and makes it impossible to refrain from buying the scented nosegay of choice flowers offered with such old-world courtesy

*Photo, Keystone View Co.*

unions as members, with a total of nearly 200,000 cooperators.

Finally, there are over 1,500 cooperative stores with a membership of about one in ten of the population, their turnover being over six millions of pounds per annum in a country of only three and a quarter millions, and, in addition, there are formidable cooperative

the special sense of the word. For Denmark is the country where the krone of 100 øre (=1s. 1½d.) takes the place of the pound, and the øre itself is still largely used. It is also the country where that picturesque survival from another age, the cellar shop, is still to be found everywhere. The Danish business man, however, not only in



# *DANISH LIFE*

## *In Capital & Country*



*The fine upright figure of Denmark's democratic monarch may often be seen riding unattended through the streets of his capital city*

Photo, Thv. Larsen





*When the corn stands thick in the fields, the full grain in the ear, and the countryman begins the harvesting of his golden store, the low-lying Danish landscape is more than usually pleasing to the eye*

Photo, Thv. Larsen





*The calm, sequestered lake, fringed by the insistent beech-tree, and the wooded valley are typical of the lovely scenery of Zealand, and prove that Denmark is not wanting in natural beauty of a quiet order*

Photo, Thv. Larsen





*Seated in the graceful vessel on the left is King Christian of Denmark, a fine sailor and the prominent figure of a Danish regatta*



*Flitting lightly over the waters, the yachts, topped by a mass of sails, gleam like white butterflies against the blue of sky and sea*

Photo, Thv. Larsen

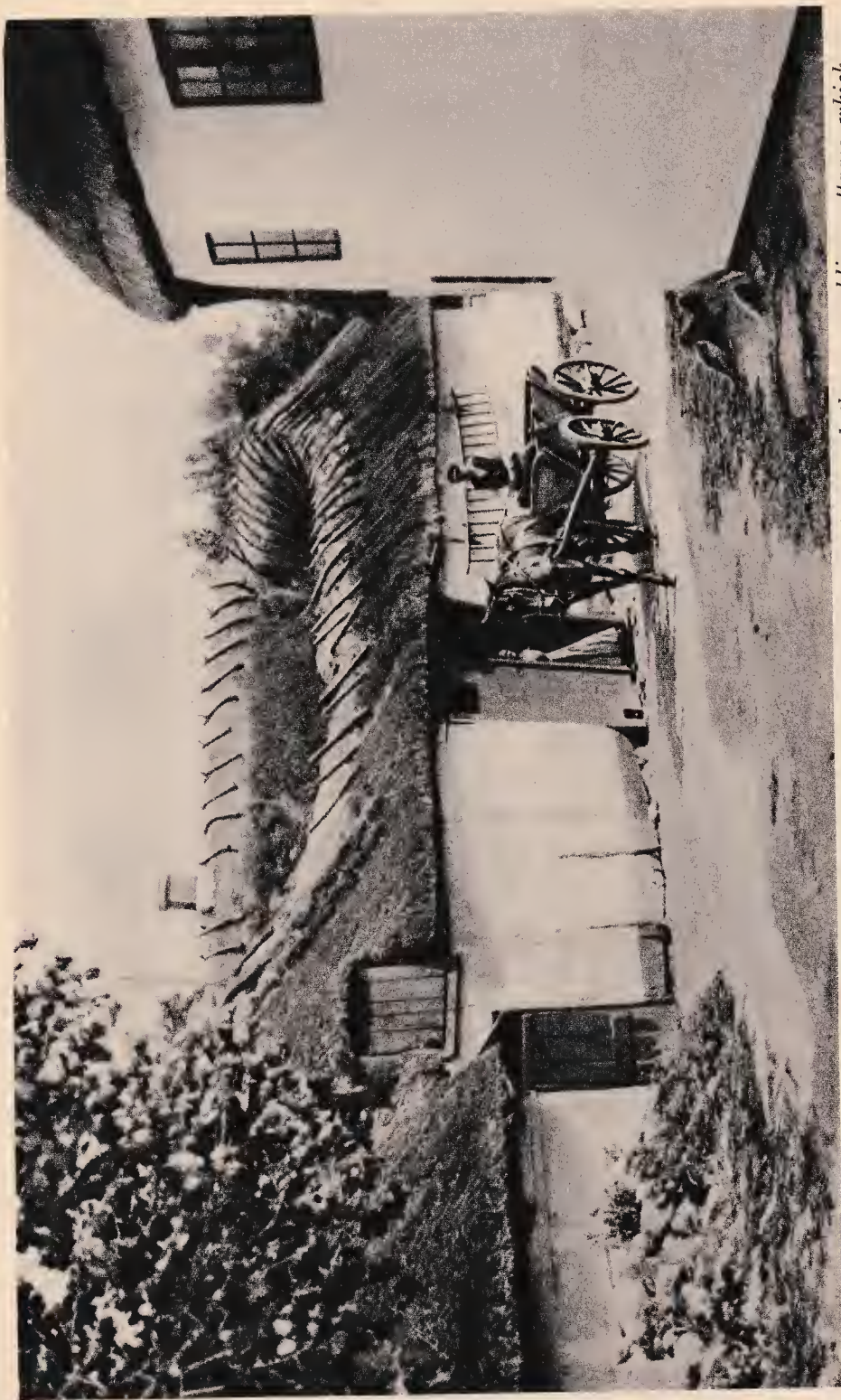




*Not all the streets of Copenhagen are broad and spacious, albeit even its most narrow thoroughfares teem with life and busy movement*

Photo, Ewing Galloway

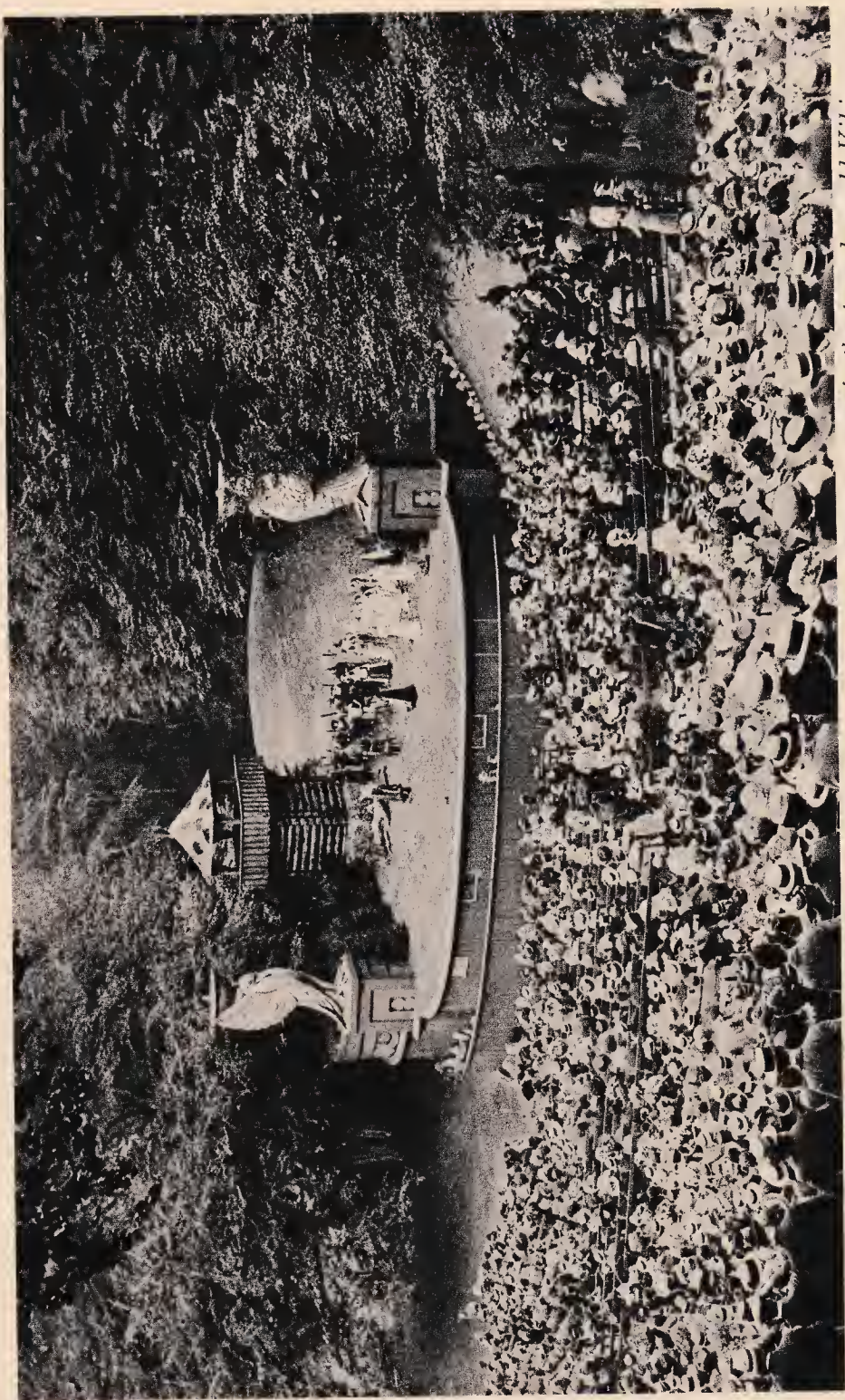




*Old-world tradition still hangs lightly about the secluded Danish hamlets, and these crumbing cottages which shelter many a poor labourer of the soil totter on wooden beams of sixteenth century construction*

Photo, Thv. Larsen





*In the beautiful deer park of Copenhagen, among massed beech-trees, is an open-air theatre, where old Vikings are seen walking the grassy stage recounting mighty deeds of valour to a spellbound audience*

Photo, Thv. Larsen





*The ornamented skin costume and Greenland coiffure are intended to transform this fair-haired, blue-eyed Dane into an Eskimo maiden*



## DENMARK & THE DANES

Europe, but in that America to which the Dane has emigrated in such large numbers, has always been able to more than hold his own in competition with his hustling rivals.

The Dane, who is Europe's first cooperator, in business (finance, insurance, etc.) refuses absolutely to combine, and has also the other strange quality that, in modern business at least, he never trusts anybody, sometimes not even his own partner. This again is one of those baffling psychological puzzles presented by Denmark, which in many ways is a country of paradox, but its origin probably lies in that materialistic scepticism, laughing and good-natured though it be, which has impregnated certain circles of the Danish people.

The most Danish thing in Denmark is that now world-famous institution—the Danish High School, the father of which was “the Prophet of the North,” Grundtvig.

Nikolai Grundtvig himself was one of those warrior priests who so often have led their own people and changed the history of the world. He was the son of a South Zealand clergyman, being born in the year 1783, the High School being founded seventy-seven years ago. The basis of the High School is Christian, but non-dogmatic.

Grundtvig came at a time when Denmark, beaten down into the slough of materialism and self-distrust by the unsuccessful war against England in 1807 and its separation from Norway in 1815, had begun to lose faith in itself. So it was that Grundtvig built his High School upon the rock of

“nationality.” That was the *idea*. He had then to find the *method*.

This was that historical method which is the very heart of the High School and which teaches the young Dane, man or woman, why he or she is Danish, and the things for which their country stands, so helping them to find



SMALL MEN FROM THE TOP OF THE GLOBE

They have grown too big to be carried in the long, capacious hood of their Eskimo mother, and must now toddle about in the stout boots which their daddy has made for them from his large store of skins, trophies of successful hunting excursions

*Photo, Danish Legation*

“consciousness” and self-expression. “The living word,” as it is called, as opposed to the teaching from the book, is almost exclusively used in the schools, this living word being really the recognition of life in education as opposed to the mere piling up of facts and the passing of examinations.

As a typical High School course, we may take that in vogue at Askov, the



## DENMARK & THE DANES

most\* comprehensive of the Danish High Schools.

Two lectures, common to the whole school, are held daily, one in the forenoon and one in the afternoon, the rest of the teaching being broken up into smaller sections, the lectures falling under six series and the subjects under two groups—History and Natural Research. The first group includes part of the history of the North, the history of the world, the history of literature, Church history, and the history of culture. With this is associated that famous High School conversation form of instruction between master and pupil, in a school where the master regards himself as learning from his pupil as much as he teaches.

The lectures in the second group of

Natural Research include astronomy, chemistry, geology, and biology. With this goes a series of mathematical and laboratory exercises.

Recognizing that the essential to nationality is language, in the High School the Danish language is taught not merely as a haphazard means of conversation but the pupil learns its psychological significance and learns to use it freely, consciously, and powerfully. In a typical winter course, teaching of the mother-tongue is completed in twelve different sections according to the pupil's previous knowledge.

At Askov there are also classes in English, French, and German, while sociology plays a large part in the course. The first-year pupil studies Danish



ESKIMO HOUSEWIFE IN HER PRIMITIVE KITCHEN

The shaggy coat and "shammoyed" skin trousers of this Eskimo woman, who is bending over the pots containing the unsavoury mixture which she calls dinner, are suitable garments for the severe climate of her native land which is hemmed in by the eternal Polar ice. Her cast of countenance and long, lank hair proclaim her an unmistakable member of the Mongolian stock

*Photo, Brown Bros.*





#### ESKIMO HUNTER AND HIS WIFE IN WINTER COSTUME

Their home-sewn garments are chiefly made of seal or bear skin, often decorated with the wonderfully soft skin of the eider-duck or with trimmings of embroidered leather. Great similarity exists between the costumes of the two sexes, for women wear trousers and jackets like those of the men; in this case the woman is distinguished by her plaited hair and the bead ornamentation on her coat

*Photo, Brown Bros.*

sociology in a manner that, by the historical method, gives him or her a real grip upon the way in which the society into which he has been born has come into being. Second-year pupils study a more purely historical sociology with life-histories of leading men.

Denmark, both people and country, is in fact one of the most interesting

lands in Europe with its complex of social, educational, and agricultural experiments; the high intelligence which is its people's, and the paradox which is peculiarly its own.

At one time one of the most powerful countries in Europe, Denmark has been a coloniser in both the tropics and the Arctic Circle. The Danish West Indies



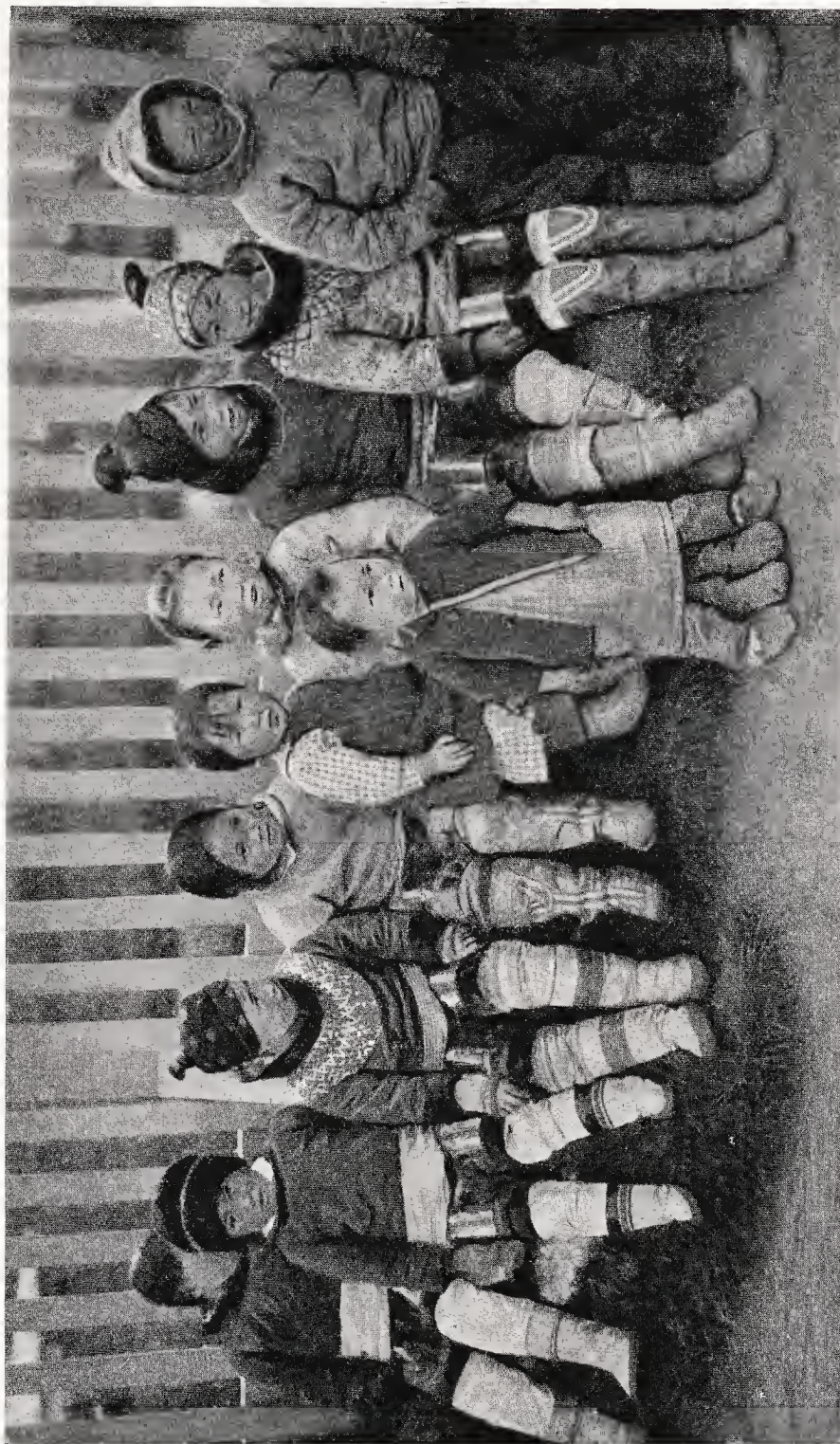


COMFORTLESS QUARTERS WHICH ARE SPECIALLY BUILT TO BRAVE THE SEVERE WINTERS OF GREENLAND

The summer residences of the Eskimos are different in both position and structure from their winter abodes, due perhaps to the fact that the melting of the frozen filth and refuse around the winter quarters would render a summer sojourn on the same spot practically insupportable. Formed of stones and sods, this rugged homestead can accommodate two or more families, and in "better-class" dwellings the walls of the only room are hung with skins and the floor is paved with flat stones

*Photo, Danish Legation*





# BABY BUNTINGS OF THE ESKIMO TRIBE SNUGLY WRAPPED IN THE PROVERBIAL SKINS

The baby Eskimo grows up very quickly, and is given a miniature costume of his father's, so soon as he can stand on his sturdy legs. His high skin-boots rarely leave his feet, for his parents pay little attention to personal cleanliness, and water is seldom if ever used in the Eskimo toilet. It is said, however, that quite tiny babies are sometimes licked clean by their mothers before being tucked up in the bag of feathers which serves as their bed

*Photo, Danish Legation*





UMIAK MANNED BY ESKIMO WOMEN IN THE WATERS OFF THE COAST OF GREENLAND

Besides the kayak, which is perhaps the most interesting and characteristic of all Eskimo inventions, and is absolutely essential to the existence of these shore-dwelling tribes, there is a stouter and more roomy vessel called the umiak, or women's boat. Covered with skin over a framework of wood, it is flat bottomed, can carry considerable loads, and is largely employed by the Eskimos in the movement of the tribes and their belongings from one fishing station to another

*Photo, Danish Legation*





**ESKIMO INGENUITY IS VIVIDLY DISPLAYED IN THIS MINIATURE FLEET OF UMIAKS AND KAYAKS**

In the island of Greenland, north-east of North America, the Eskimos, a name derived from a word signifying "eaters of raw flesh," number about 11,000. Solely hunters and fishers these Arctic people live principally along the coast of the Polar regions, rarely penetrating very far inland, and most of their food is procured from the sea. They are extraordinarily capable seamen, and the exploits of the kayaker while engaged in capturing seal or whale are remarkable in the extreme

*Photo, Danish Legation*



## DENMARK & THE DANES

have, however, been sold to the U.S.A., and Iceland has been given independence. There remains its Arctic Colony, Greenland.

The first man to colonise and convert Greenland was the Danish missionary, Hans Egede, 300 years ago.

Like all Eskimos, the Greenlanders are Mongols, with the characteristic broad, flat face, lank, black hair, and almond eyes, but they are intensely hospitable and friendly—a merry and innocent people. The skin is a pale ochre, while in the younger women and children a pretty olive tint shows through the coating of grease with which the Greenland face is generally covered, but the women age rapidly. In stature, the men and women vary from 5 ft. to 5 ft. 4 in.

The women like the men, wear

trousers of fox, seal, reindeer, etc., and the female tunic-hood has a "tail" which serves as a baby-carrier. They have considerable colour-sense, the women's trousers and tunics being ornamented with eider-duck, etc., and their boots, coming to the knee, being dyed in brilliant colours.

Their lives in many ways are rather animal, morals, not helped by European influences, being rather promiscuous, and the exchange of wives not uncommon. They live on blubber, raw flesh, which is sometimes, however, boiled, shellfish, seaweed, berries, etc., and have both summer and winter dwellings, the latter called igloos. The former are temporary, movable structures, used for hunting and fishing, while the latter are partially underground huts built of stones and sods, roofed with



ESKIMO MEMBERS OF A DANISH SETTLEMENT IN GREENLAND

In general appearance the Eskimos are very like the Chukchis and Koriaks of the Kamchatka Peninsula, and, despite the broad flat face, the fat cheeks, and Mongoloid obliquity of the eyes, the average physiognomy is by no means displeasing. This summer home is infinitely superior to the wretched semi-subterranean winter domicile shown on page 1612

*Photo, Brown Bros.*





#### SKILFUL SEAMEN OF THE ARCTIC WATERS

This strange craft, propelled by double-bladed paddles, is the usual hunting canoe of Arctic America. It is made of sealskin tightly stretched over a pointed frame, a hole being left amidships where the navigator sits. The Eskimos of Greenland are frequently to be seen in this type of boat, and Robert Peary, the Arctic explorer, describes them as "skimming the water so easily in their frail kayaks"

*Photo, Thv. Larsen*

turf, and heated and lighted with oil lamps, the windows being covered with membrane. Now, however, timber, imported, is often used, and in the "colony-towns" (Bo-byer), the Greenlanders have many of the appurtenances of civilization, the better educated speaking Danish as well as their own tongue. Two families or more sometimes occupy one hut.

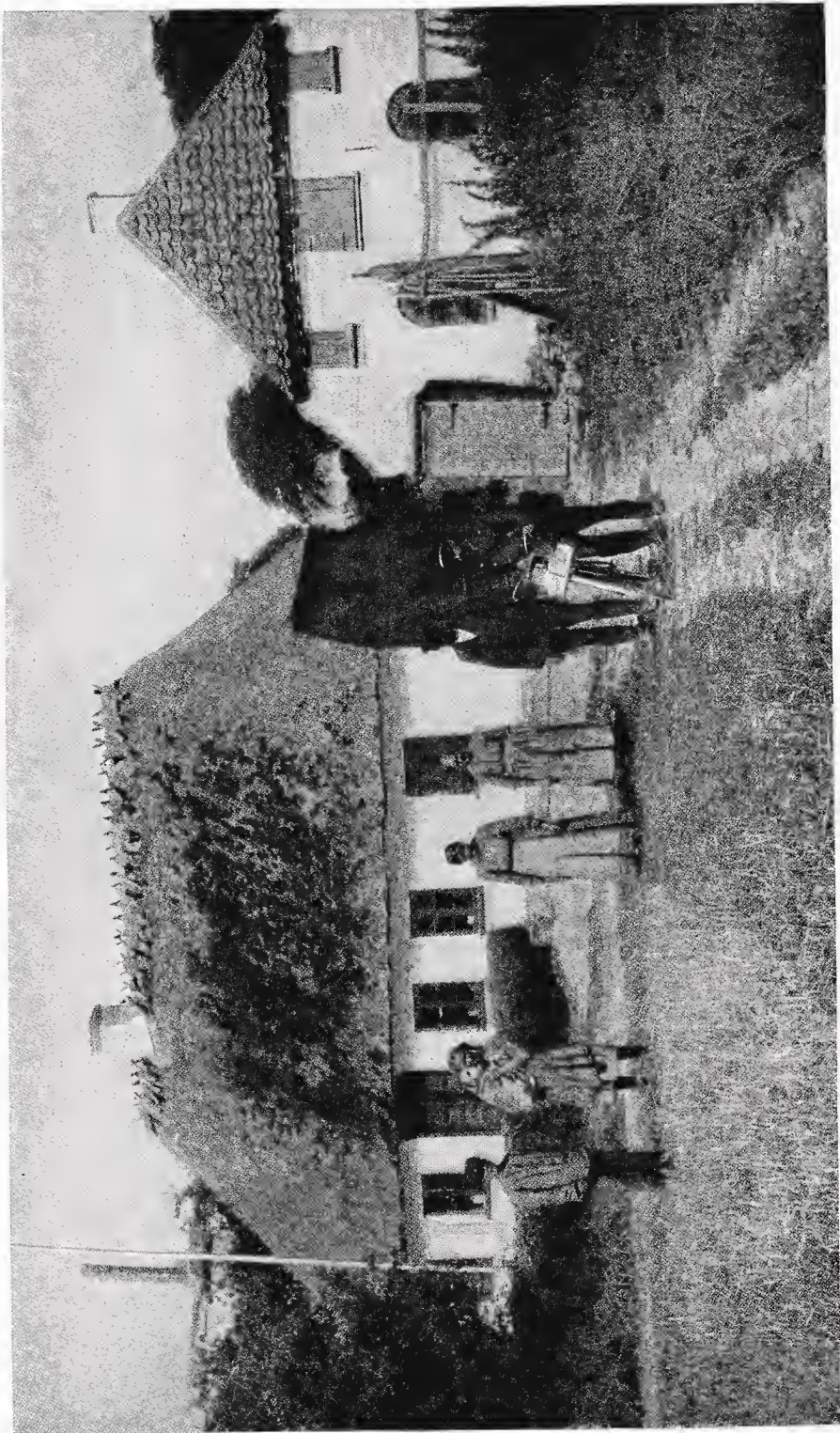
They have, to an extent, been Christianized, have their own churches, and generally are being "civilized," although it is safe to say that much of this is virtually but skin-deep, the Greenlanders being essentially pagan.

The craft of the most expert boatmen in the world are the wonder kayaks,

made of sealskin, stretched over wood or whalebone, and the umiaks, or woman-boats, which will carry up to two or three tons. Harpoons and lances, the blades to-day being made from iron, but formerly from chipped stone, are used for seals and fish. The native leather-work and eiderdown rugs are very beautiful. The "husky" or sledge-dog is famous throughout the world for his endurance.

The Greenlander would seem doomed to disappear, especially since the introduction of various diseases by Europeans, and with him will vanish the last living traces of our ancestors of the Stone Age, now lost in the mists of time.





COUNTRY CORNER OF DENMARK'S RESTORED LAND IN SLESVIG

Slesvig, the homeland of this village family, was restored to Denmark in 1919 by the Treaty of Versailles. This most cherished province was torn from the Danes by the Germans, assisted by the Austrians, in 1864, and during their rule the Imperial autocrats forbade all use of the Danish language in the Lutheran churches and schools. The old order is, however, now reasserting itself, and the Mother Country is gradually wiping out the traces of the invader's devastating influence

*Photo, Ewing Gallwey*



# Denmark

## II. The Stirring Story of the Scandinavian Kingdom

By J. A. Brendon, B.A., F.R.Hist.S.

Writer on Modern European History

THE Danes, as a people, emerged from the mists of legend and mythology in the course of the eighth century, and the spirit of adventure, common to the Viking stock, soon led them to seek out foreign lands. The Swedes sailed eastward, and to the south. The warriors of Denmark steered their ships towards the west.

During the ninth and tenth centuries, countless pirate crews swept down from Denmark upon Britain. At first they came only in quest of plunder. A small force would land from a few ships, seize such arms and provisions as could be found, burn down the church perhaps, brand a blood-red eagle on the priest's back, and then return, taking with them the cattle and the horses they had stolen. In course of time the Danes came as conquerors. Gradually they settled in the country, and so gave the British people some of the best blood that flows in their veins.

Then came Canute, or Knut the Great.

In 1017 this mighty Dane waded through blood to the British throne, and for several years an Anglo-Scandinavian empire was actually in being. Canute was quick to see the strategic importance of Britain, and purposed to make the country the heart and centre of his empire. He extended that empire over England and southern Scotland, Denmark and Norway, and the Wendish lands along the south coast of the Baltic; and "in his kingdom," the chronicler tells us, "was so good a peace that no one dared to break it."

### Greatness of Medieval Denmark

While Canute lived the empire prospered; when he died it crumbled at once. But the idea of an Anglo-Scandinavian empire lingered in men's minds for years, and Danish kings long cherished the design of reasserting their claims to England. So late as the fourteenth century, King Waldemar IV., called Atterdag (1340-75), seriously planned a conquest.

After the death of Canute, the Danish monarchy lost Norway as well as England. None the less the Danes, the first of the Scandinavians to accept the Christian faith, continued until the thirteenth century to be the dominant people of northern Europe. They held sway from Holstein to the Gulf of Riga, from Lake Wener to the Elbe. According to legend,

in a great battle fought near Reval, in 1219, against the heathen Esthonians, the Danes lost their banner and were very hard pressed. Then suddenly there fell from heaven a red banner with a white cross in the centre. Round this the Danes rallied, and so won a glorious victory. The national flag of Denmark to this day is red with a white cross.

The greatness of medieval Denmark ended in 1241 with the death of King Waldemar II.—or Waldemar the Victorious as he was known. In 1223 the king, while the guest of one of his German vassals, was treacherously seized by minions of his host, and carried off to a dungeon in a castle on the Elbe. There he languished for nearly three years. Finally, in order to regain liberty, he had to cede as ransom nearly all that Denmark had acquired during fifty years of conquest. Anarchy held sovereign sway in Denmark after his death, and for a century at least the Danes had no national history. In the meanwhile, the hegemony of the North passed into the hands of the famous Hansa.

### Power of the Hansa Cities

During the thirteenth century the Hansa, a loosely-knit league of trading cities—notably Hamburg and Lübeck—ranged along the coast of the Baltic, came gradually to rank as an independent Power, and continued so to rank until the sixteenth century. Then, largely owing to the changed trading conditions which resulted from the discoveries of the great Portuguese and Spanish explorers, it rapidly declined. Waldemar IV., who became king of Denmark in 1340, strove gallantly to wrest from the Hansa cities the power they had usurped. In this he failed. But he made the Danes again a nation, he restored national prestige, and he died leaving Denmark an intact kingdom.

Under the rule of his daughter, Margaret (1376-1412), the country gave promise of regaining its former strength. Margaret was a political genius, with a will of iron. She was one of the few Danish sovereigns who, before the seventeenth century, ruled in fact as well as name. "All the nobility of Denmark," wrote an old chronicler, "were seized by fear of the wisdom and strength of this lady."

The outstanding feature of Margaret's reign was the so-called Union of Kalmar,



## DENMARK & ITS STORY

July 20, 1397. This was the outcome of a series of adroit political manœuvres by which Margaret brought Norway and Sweden also under her sway. The union lasted until 1523, but Margaret's successors failed ever to make it more than a nominal bond. The three kingdoms, though they acknowledged the same sovereign, remained entirely separate, each with its own laws and institutions; and the frequent and inevitable absence of the king enabled the ruling class in each—particularly in Denmark and Sweden—to add more, and yet more, to the excessive power it already possessed.

Christian II. (1513-23), an enlightened and accomplished king, courageously challenged the privileges of the nobility, and sought to assert the authority of the crown in all his dominions; and so really to unify Scandinavia. Christian aimed at liberating the people, no less than the monarchy, from the galling yoke of an oppressive class. His schemes, on the whole, were well conceived. Unfortunately, they were very badly executed. In the end, the king brought disaster on himself and the Danes.

In Sweden, the high-handed actions of Christian evoked for the first time a truly patriotic spirit. Under the inspiring leadership of Gustavus Vasa, the people rose in revolt, severed the Danish

connexion, and re-established their independence on a firm national basis. Denmark, too, revolted against Christian. But the Danish revolt was not a national revolt; it was a revolt only of nobles jealous of their ancient rights. Unhappily for Denmark, the nobles won. In 1523 Christian was driven from his throne, to spend the remainder of his long life, once full of promise, wretchedly in captivity.

Meanwhile, the condition of the kingdom he had lost went rapidly from bad to worse, and for a hundred and fifty years something indeed was "rotten in the state of Denmark." The monarchy was made elective, the royal office became an empty honour, and the nobles, a privileged class which acknowledged no corresponding obligations, and paid no taxes, usurped all authority. Political liberty became a thing unknown. Peasants were reduced to serfdom, burgesses to penury.

The Reformation, so far from improving the situation, made it worse. In most countries the adoption of Protestant beliefs tended to facilitate the growth of liberal ideas. Not so in Denmark. There the removal of the Roman Catholic hierarchy had the effect of depriving the people of their only protection from oppression; while the confiscated wealth of the Church enabled the nobles still further to enrich themselves. In 1523

the Swedes severed themselves from the Union of Kalmar. The Norwegians lacked natural leaders and an influential native nobility, and so were constrained to remain under the Danish monarchy. For another three centuries the political history of Norway was bound up with that of Denmark.

The period from 1523 to 1660 is the darkest in all the annals of Denmark. Faction, strife, and oppression gave rise to untold suffering among the people, aggravated by the incessant wars which the Danes were called upon to wage, mainly against Sweden. The Danish monarchy continued proudly to claim that supremacy of the North which Sweden, under the house of Vasa, had in fact won from it. As a symbol of that supremacy, it insisted on emblazoning on its arms the three crowns of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden; and on claiming that foreign ships in northern seas should



THE KINGDOM OF DENMARK



## DENMARK & ITS STORY

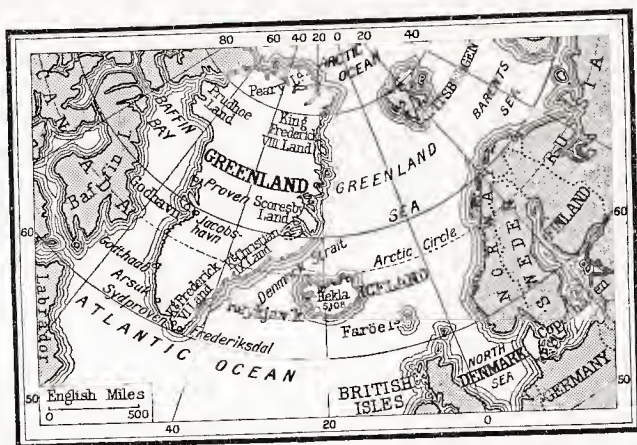
strike their topsail to Danish men-of-war. Further, it exacted customs dues from all ships which sailed into the Sound, and generally made demands which Sweden, then one of the greatest military Powers in Europe, could not admit.

This bitter, fratricidal strife between the peoples of Scandinavia proved a heavy drain on the resources of Sweden. Denmark it ruined. The Danes, especially their sailors, fought in these wars with a heroism of which the nation justly may be proud; but how could faction-ridden Denmark hope to prevail against the well-organized forces of her rival? In the words of one of her kings, a gallant admiral, the nobles "care not for God, or king, or country, but only for their own selfish interests."

One by one important provinces were taken from Denmark—Gothland, for example, and Scania, Blekinge, and Halland. By the middle of the seventeenth century she had sunk to the level of a third-rate Power.

Then a remarkable thing happened. In 1660, the Danish people rose against the tyrants who had misruled them. The revolution began very much as other popular revolutions have begun. Normally, however, a popular revolution results in an attempt to establish some form of popular government. The Danes made no such attempt. Instead, they offered their king an absolute, hereditary sovereignty. The king, Frederick III. (1648-70), supported by Peder Schumacher (Count Griffenfeld), one of the most notable of Danish statesmen, accepted the offer. And for a century and a half the people of Denmark continued to live under the most highly-centralised monarchy in Europe, "the only comfort left to them," wrote Lord Molesworth, the British ambassador, "being to see their former oppressors in almost as miserable a condition as themselves."

But there is another side to the picture. Denmark needed a strong government, and under a despotism which, on the whole, was well directed, the country advanced with giant strides. In a short time the Danes regained the position they had formerly held in the family of nations. Among the changes initiated by Christian Ditlev Reventlow and Juliane Marie, widow of Frederick V., far-reaching agricultural reforms, which gave the peasant class equality before the law with other citizens, and abolished



GREENLAND: DENMARK'S ONLY COLONY

forced labour, deserve attention. Hereby the foundation was laid for the prosperity of that independent peasantry which wields the predominating influence in Denmark at the present day.

During the eighteenth century, earnest attempts were made to bring about a better understanding among the Scandinavian peoples. Traditional animosities and the machinations of foreign wire-pullers seriously hampered these efforts. None the less, they had effect. In 1780, and again in 1801, Denmark and Sweden entered into partnership in the so-called Armed Neutrality, formed at the instigation of Russia to protect neutral shipping against the right of search claimed by Britain.

This led to the battle of Copenhagen. The British Government decided to treat the Armed Neutrality of 1801 as a declaration of war, and acted with decisive energy. A fleet, under Sir Hyde Parker—but commanded by Nelson—was sent to the Baltic to deal with the situation.

How, on April 2, 1801, this fleet forced its way into the harbour of Copenhagen, defeated the Danish forces, and broke up the Armed Neutrality, constitutes one of the most splendid exploits of the British Navy. The exploit, too, redounds to the glory of Denmark. The Danes were beaten only because Nelson led the British. Nelson avowed that the battle of Copenhagen was the hottest fight in which he ever took part, and, as the hero of the day, he named Peder Willemoes, the boy commander of a small Danish gunboat which engaged the British flagship for four hours. After the battle, Nelson urged the Crown Prince of Denmark to make the boy an admiral.

Six years later, the Danes and British fought a second battle of Copenhagen, a deplorable affair, which came about in this way. In June, 1807, Napoleon and



## DENMARK & ITS STORY

the Tsar of Russia met at Tilsit. At this meeting the two autocrats agreed to divide Europe between them on a common basis of hostility to Britain, and they decided, among other things, to induce or compel the Danes to give them the use of their fleet. Canning, who at the time was the British foreign minister, somehow got wind of this design and, without even waiting to ascertain what attitude the Danes would adopt, sent a fleet, under Admiral Gambier, to the Baltic to demand the surrender of their navy.

### Loss of Norway & Heligoland

The Danes naturally refused to accede to this outrageous proposition. Thereupon Gambier proceeded to bombard Copenhagen, doing an immense amount of damage in the city. The Danes endured this bombardment for three days before they surrendered. Gambier then calmly sailed away with their fleet. Canning, by this bold move, may have defeated Napoleon at his own game. It is impossible, however, on this ground, or even on the ground that Britain's need was great, to justify an unprincipled violation of the rights of a neutral state. The result of this action was, of course, to drive the indignant and defenceless Danes straight into the arms of France. This brought further trouble on them. When Napoleon fell, they fell also, and, by the terms of the peace settlement of 1814, were so vindictively humiliated that for several years they ceased to be a Power.

In 1815, Denmark lost Norway, which was callously taken from her and handed to Sweden. In 1815, she also lost Heligoland, which was annexed by Britain.

### Growth of Internal Prosperity

Under an autocracy, the Danes failed to attain to greatness. Under a despotism, they failed again. It remained for them to experiment with democracy. After 1815, liberal ideas steadily gained ground. In 1848, that year of revolutions, the progressive party finally acquired the upper hand, and in 1849 King Frederick VII. was forced to grant a constitution to his subjects. This constitution, altered in 1863, and revised in 1866, remained in force until 1915, when the new constitution bill was submitted. It was passed in 1918, gave women the right to vote as well as to be elected members of the Danish parliament, and was amended in 1920 to incorporate parts of Slesvig.

Since 1849, the internal prosperity of Denmark has increased by leaps and bounds. Vast tracts of territory, hitherto entirely waste or barren, have been brought under cultivation, and the Danish peasant of old is to-day a scientific farmer second to none in the world. This, indeed,

every British housewife knows. Is not Danish, when applied to bacon, cheese, or butter the hall-mark of excellence? Before 1849, Denmark had no industrial life. To-day, apart from agricultural produce, the chief manufactures are sugar, margarine, beer, woollen and cotton goods, furniture, cement and bricks, china and glass, matches, motors, and all kinds of machinery and cast-iron ware, which occupy a considerable proportion of the population.

Since 1849, moreover, the pan-Scandinavian idea has taken a concrete shape. The peoples of Scandinavia have instituted a common coinage and postage. At regular intervals, members of their parliaments hold inter-parliamentary conferences. In matters of foreign policy, the Scandinavian countries are guided almost entirely by mutual interests.

Nelson, after he had signed the armistice at Copenhagen in 1801, addressed a letter "to the brothers of Englishmen, the Danes." In this letter he wrote "that he will esteem it the greatest victory he had ever gain'd, if this flag of truce may be the happy forerunner of a lasting and happy union." The words were prophetic. Despite 1807, the Danes, as well as the Swedes and the Norwegians, have been leaning more and more towards Britain.

### Slesvig Restored to the Danes

In 1863, the Princess Alexandra, a daughter of the heir to the Danish throne, was married to the Prince of Wales (King Edward VII.). In 1905, when Norway broke away from Sweden, the Norwegian crown was given, largely at the instigation of Britain, to a Danish prince, who was then married to King Edward's youngest daughter. In 1905, the Crown Prince of Sweden also took a British bride.

During the Great War, Denmark was able to maintain her position as a neutral. But, when the war ended, a problem which closely concerned the Danish people again came up for reconsideration—the old problem of Slesvig-Holstein.

The problem is complex. It is impossible to state it fairly in a few words. The gist of the matter, however, is this. Holstein came under the sovereignty of the Danish crown on the accession of Christian I., and this entirely German province was then administratively incorporated with the duchy of Slesvig, which had always been purely Danish in sentiment. Holstein was never happy under Danish rule; the people continued to be essentially German, and in the year of revolutions, 1848, they agitated strongly for separation from Denmark, and for their inclusion in the German confederation. Rebellion broke out in Slesvig-Holstein. This, in 1850, the Danes



## DENMARK & ITS STORY

succeeded in suppressing, although the rebels were supported by German troops; and an unsatisfactory truce ensued.

In 1863, the trouble again came to a head. This time Prussia and Austria directly intervened and, having defeated the Danes, forced Denmark to cede Slesvig-Holstein to them jointly.

Denmark hoped that Britain would fight with her in this war. Britain, however, offered only moral support; and Sweden, though eager to make common cause with Denmark, was deterred from taking action by the crafty statesmanship of Bismarck. That cunning Prussian, always prepared for every possible contingency, had come to an understanding with Russia that, if Sweden joined Denmark, Russia should invade Sweden, and seize certain ice-free ports. In 1866, Prussia went to war with Austria. Bismarck then appropriated Slesvig-Holstein, and so later the duchies were absorbed in the German Empire. This probably was Bismarck's intention all along.

What right had the German Republic to Slesvig-Holstein? This, obviously, was one of the questions which had to be answered in 1919.

The statesmen, who then met at Paris to re-draw the political map of Europe on the slate which war had wiped clean, used as their guiding principles the ideas of liberty and nationality. They had no difficulty, therefore, in determining the proper status of Holstein. Holstein was unquestionably German. So was southern Slesvig.

But what about central and northern Slesvig?

With scrupulous fairness, the victorious Allies decided to allow the people of these parts to determine their own political fate. A plébiscite was held. That is to say, a direct vote of the people was taken on this one point. The central zone voted for Germany. The northern zone voted, almost to a man, for Denmark. The northern part of Slesvig, like Alsace and Lorraine, had stubbornly refused to be Prussianised, and had stood for half a century an unconquerable Danish outpost on German soil. When came the day of deliverance, which had been patiently awaited, the devoted people jubilantly re-hoisted the flag they loved—the historic red flag with a white cross in the centre.

## DENMARK: FACTS & FIGURES

### The Country

Includes Jutland, North Slesvig, and several islands, including Zealand, Funen, Langeland, Falster, Moen, Bornholm, and the Faroes. Area, 17,144 square miles; North Slesvig, 1,538 square miles. Population, 3,431,400 (North Slesvig, or South Jutland Provinces, 163,600), more than 96 per cent. born in Denmark. Colony: Greenland, area, 46,740 square miles; population, about 13,450. Islands of St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John in West Indies, sold to U.S.A. in 1917.

### Communications

About 2,660 miles of railways, 1,280 controlled by the State. State telegraph lines, 2,258 miles; State and private telephone wires, 552,266 miles.

### Government and Constitution

Constitutional monarchy. Legislative power under grundlov or charter of 1915, amended 1920, vested in King and Rigsdag (Diet), which includes two houses, Folketing (Commons), and Landsting (Senate). Universal suffrage for men and women twenty-five years of age with fixed place of abode. Folketing elected for four, Landsting for eight years. Members of Rigsdag paid. Each of the twenty-two counties has a governor and county council; eighty-eight urban, and about 1,300 rural municipalities elected by universal suffrage and proportional representation. Copenhagen a separate district with own administration. Cost of old-age pensions divided between State and commune of domicile.

### Commerce and Industries

Small farms general, but cooperation highly developed; 80 per cent. of land productive. Area under crops: wheat, 219,650 acres; rye, 558,790; barley, 628,140; oats, 1,111,570; mixed grain, 479,190; potatoes, 207,920. Horses, 597,980; cattle, 2,590,900. Sheep, 521,930; pigs, 1,429,900; hens, 17,803,000. Industrial factories and shops number 82,440, employing

346,000 persons; sugar factories produce about 152,700 tons of beet sugar. Value of fisheries in 1920 about £2,350,000. Imports, 1921 (coal, woollens, silks, cotton, iron, hardware, wine, fruit, tea, maize, and colonial produce), £90,843,611; exports (agricultural produce, hides, skins, corn, meal, oil-cake, horses and cattle), £81,363,944, of which home produce valued at £76,854,000. Mercantile marine, 3,749 vessels (570 steamers), 592,724 tons. Greenland trade is a State monopoly. Monetary unit, krone of 100 ore = rs. 1½d.

### Defence

Conscription universal for national militia or navy, clergymen included, from age of twenty, service lasting sixteen years, half in active forces, half in reserve. Effective strength of army, 60,000, with 55,000 additional on mobilization, special corps for Bornholm. Fleet, for coast defence, five monitors, two cruisers, five mine-layers, one sloop, twenty torpedo-boats, fourteen submarines.

### Religion and Education

Established Church, Evangelical-Lutheran, of which King must be a member, but toleration general and no dissenting disabilities. About 2,732,790 Protestants, 9,800 Roman Catholics, 250 Greek Catholics, 5,160 Jews. Elementary education free and compulsory from age of seven to fourteen. Lower schools 4,230, with about 473,300 pupils. University of Copenhagen has five faculties, open to men and women, about 100 professors, and some 3,200 students. High school system noteworthy. Special schools, particularly for agriculture and horticulture, numerous.

### Chief Towns

Copenhagen, capital (population 561,344, with suburbs 666,150); Aarhus (74,250), Odense (49,460), Aalborg (71,600), Horsens (27,580), Randers (26,490).





JIVARO HUNTER TAKING A SHOT AT SOME GROUND GAME IN THE SCRUB BELOW HIS HUT

Blowpipes are the principal hunting weapons of the wild Indians of Ecuador, as of the wild tribes of Borneo, and of Malaya, illustrated on pages 826-832 and 883. They are twelve feet or more in length, and for small game the projectiles used are sunbaked balls of clay, while for large animals arrows of cane are used. The arrows are poisoned with a potent preparation of curare obtained from traders, which kills in a few minutes but does not render the game unfit for food.

*Photo, H. E. Anthony, American Museum of Natural History*